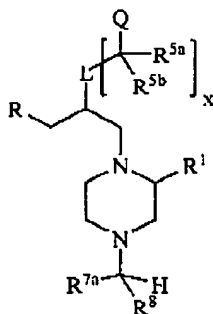


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CLAIMS AMENDMENTS

1-38 Cancelled

39. (New) A compound having the formula:



wherein L represents a linking unit having the formula:

- i) -NHC(O)- ; or
- ii) -C(O)NH- ;

R is substituted or unsubstituted phenyl;

Q is:

- a) hydrogen;
- b) $\text{-N(R}^4\text{)}_2$; or
- c) -OR^4 ;

R⁴ units are hydrocarbyl units each of which is independently selected from the group consisting of:

- i) hydrogen;
- ii) C₁-C₁₂ hydrocarbyl selected from the group consisting of:
 - a) substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₁₂ linear, branched, or cyclic alkyl; and
 - b) C₆-C₁₂ substituted or unsubstituted aryl;

R^{5a} and R^{5b} are each independently selected from the group consisting of

- i) hydrogen;
- ii) C₁-C₁₂ hydrocarbyl selected from the group consisting of:
 - a) C₁-C₁₂ linear or branched, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl; and
 - b) C₃-C₁₂ substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl;
- iii) -COR^4 ;

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- iv) $-\text{COOR}^4$;
- v) $-\text{CON}(\text{R}^4)_2$;
- vi) $-\text{N}(\text{R}^4)_2$;
- vii) $-\text{NR}^4\text{C}(=\text{NR}^4)\text{N}(\text{R}^4)_2$;
- viii) $-\text{SO}_2\text{N}(\text{R}^4)_2$; and
- ix) R^{5a} and R^{5b} can be taken together to form a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring having from 3 to 10 atoms;

the index x is from 0 to 10;

R^1 is substituted or unsubstituted $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{12}$ linear or branched alkyl, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_8$ cyclic alkyl, $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_{12}$ linear or branched alkenyl, or $-\text{C}(\text{R}^9)_2\text{C}(\text{R}^9)_3$; each R^9 is independently hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, and iodine; the index n has the value from 0 to 10;

R^{7a} is selected from the group consisting of

- i) hydrogen;
- ii) $-\text{CON}(\text{R}^4)_2$;
- iii) $-\text{COOR}^4$; and
- iv) $-\text{N}(\text{R}^4)_2$;

R^8 is selected from the group consisting of:

- i) hydrogen; or
- ii) substituted or unsubstituted $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{14}$ aromatic carbocyclic rings.

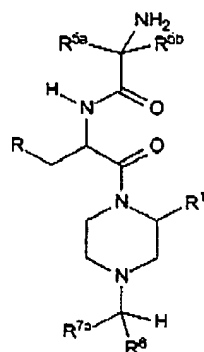
40. (New) A compound according to Claim 40 wherein R is phenyl, 3-fluorophenyl, 4-fluorophenyl, 3,5-difluorophenyl, and 4-chlorophenyl.

41. (New) A compound according to Claim 39 wherein R is 4-fluorophenyl.

42. (New) A compound according to Claim 39 wherein Q is $-\text{NH}_2$, R^{5a} and R^{5b} are each methyl.

43. (New) A compound according to Claim 39 having the formula:

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wherein R is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, 3-fluorophenyl, 4-fluorophenyl, 3,5-difluorophenyl, and 4-chlorophenyl;

R¹ is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, propyl, *iso*-propyl, butyl, *iso*-butyl, *sec*-butyl, *tert*-butyl, cyclopropyl, cyclopropylmethyl, cyclopentyl, cyclopentylmethyl, cyclohexyl, cyclohexylmethyl, benzyl, allyl, 1-methylallyl, 2-methylallyl, but-2-enyl, and propargyl;

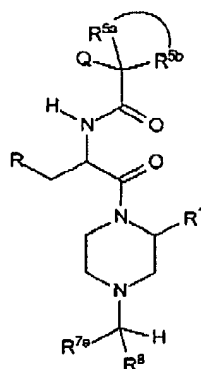
R^{7a} is selected from the group consisting of

- i) hydrogen;
- ii) -CO₂H;
- iii) -CO₂CH₃;
- iv) -CONH₂;
- v) -CONHCH₃;
- vi) -CON(CH₃)₂;
- vii) -CONH(CH₂CH₂F);
- viii) -CONCH(CH₃)₂;
- ix) -CONH(C₃H₅);
- x) -CONHCH₂(C₃H₅);

R⁸ is selected from the group consisting of benzyl, (2-chlorophenyl)methyl, (3-chlorophenyl)methyl, (4-chlorophenyl)methyl, (3,4-dichlorophenyl)methyl, (2-fluorophenyl)-methyl, (3-fluorophenyl)methyl, (4-fluorophenyl)methyl, and naphthalen-2-ylmethyl.

44. (New) A compound according to Claim 39 having the formula:

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wherein Q is selected from the group consisting of

- i) $-\text{CO}_2\text{H}$;
- i) $-\text{CO}_2\text{H}$;
- ii) $-\text{CO}_2\text{CH}_3$;
- iii) $-\text{CONH}_2$; and
- iv) $-\text{CONHCH}_3$;

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, propyl, *iso*-propyl, butyl, *iso*-butyl, *sec*-butyl, *tert*-butyl, cyclopropyl, cyclopropylmethyl, cyclopentyl, cyclopentylmethyl, cyclohexyl, cyclohexylmethyl, benzyl, allyl, 1-methylallyl, 2-methylallyl, but-2-enyl, and propargyl;

R^{5a} and R^{5b} are taken together to form a ring having from 3 to 7 atoms;

R^{7a} is selected from the group consisting of

- i) hydrogen;
- ii) $-\text{CO}_2\text{H}$;
- iii) $-\text{CO}_2\text{CH}_3$;
- iv) $-\text{CONH}_2$;
- v) $-\text{CONHCH}_3$;
- vi) $-\text{CON}(\text{CH}_3)_2$;
- vii) $-\text{CONH}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{F})$;
- viii) $-\text{CONCH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$;
- ix) $-\text{CONH}(\text{C}_3\text{H}_5)$;
- x) $-\text{CONHCH}_2(\text{C}_3\text{H}_5)$;

R^8 is selected from the group consisting of benzyl, (2-chlorophenyl)methyl, (3-chlorophenyl)methyl, (4-chlorophenyl)methyl, (3,4-dichlorophenyl)methyl, (2-

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fluorophenyl)methyl, (3-fluorophenyl)methyl, (4-fluorophenyl)methyl, and naphthalen-2-ylmethyl.

45. (New) A compound according to Claim 39 wherein R¹ is selected from the group consisting of methoxymethyl, methoxyethyl, methoxypropyl, ethoxymethyl, ethoxyethyl, ethoxypropyl, propoxymethyl, propoxyethyl, and propoxypropyl.

46. (New) A compound according to Claim 39 selected from the group consisting of:

- 2-{4-[2-(2-amino-2-methyl-propionylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-ethyl-piperazine-1-yl}-N-methyl-3-naphthalen-2-yl-propionamide;
- 2-{4-[2-(2-amino-2-methyl-propionylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-ethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-3-naphthalen-2-yl-propionamide;
- 2-{4-[2-(2-Amino-2-methyl-propionylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-ethyl-pipcrazin-1-yl}-3-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;
- 2-{4-[2-(2-amino-2-methyl-propionylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-methyl-piperazin-1-yl}-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;
- 2-{4-[2-(2-Amino-2-methyl-propionylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-methyl-piperazin-1-yl}-3-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;
- 2-{4-[2-(2-Amino-2-methyl-propionylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-propyl-pipcrazin-1-yl}-3-(3-chlorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;
- 2-{4-[2-(2-Amino-2-methyl-propionylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;
- 2-{4-[2-(2-Amino-2-methyl-propionylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-3-(2-chlorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;
- 2-{4-[2-(2-Amino-2-methyl-propionylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-3-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;
- 2-{4-[2-(2-Amino-2-methyl-propionylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-4-(4-chlorophenyl)-N-methyl-butylamide;
- 2-{4-[2-(2-Amino-2-methyl-propionylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-methyl-piperazin-1-yl}-3-(2-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;
- 2-{4-[2-(2-Amino-2-methyl-propionylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-3-(2-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;

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- 2-{4-[2-(2-Amino-2-methyl-propionylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-3-(3-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;
- 2-{4-[2-(2-Amino-2-methyl-propionylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;
- 2-{4-[2-(2-Amino-2-methyl-propionylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-3-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;
- 2-{4-[2-(2-Amino-2-methyl-propionylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-3-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;
- 2-{4-[2-(2-Amino-2-methyl-propionylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-cyclopropylmethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-N-isopropyl-3-naphthalen-2-yl-propionamide;
- 2-{4-[2-(2-Amino-2-methyl-propionylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-cyclopropylmethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-N-methyl-3-naphthalen-2-yl-propionamide;
- 2-{4-[2-(2-Amino-2-methyl-propionylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-3-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-N-(2-fluoroethyl)-propionamide;
- 2-{4-[2-(2-Amino-2-methyl-propionylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-3-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-N-isopropyl-propionamide;
- and
- 2-{4-[2-(2-Amino-2-methyl-propionylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-N-(2-fluoroethyl)-propionamide.

47. (New) A compound according to Claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:
- Pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid {1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2-[2-ethyl-4-(1-methyl-carbamoyl-2-naphthalen-2-yl-ethyl) piperazin-1-yl]-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;
 - 2-[2-[2-Ethyl-4-(1-methylcarbamoyl-2-naphthalen-2-yl-ethyl) piperazin-1-yl]-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethylcarbamoyl]-pyrrolidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester;

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5-Oxo-pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid[2-[2-ethyl-4-(1-methylcarbamoyl-2-naphthalen-2-yl-ethyl)-piperazine-1-yl]-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;

Azetidine-2-carboxylic acid [2-[2-ethyl-4-(1-methylcarbamoyl-2-naphthalen-2-yl-ethyl)-piperazin-1-yl]-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;

Azetidine-3-carboxylic acid [2-[2-ethyl-4-(1-methylcarbamoyl-2-naphthalen-2-yl-ethyl)-piperazin-1-yl]-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;

N-[2-{4-[2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-methyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-isonicotinamide;

N-[2-{4-[2-(3,4-Dichlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-ethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-isonicotinamide;

Pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid[2-{4-[2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-methyl-piperazine-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;

Pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid[2-{4-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-methyl-piperazine-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;

Pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-ethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;

1-Amino-Cyclopropanecarboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-ethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;

N-[2-{4-[2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1-(2-fluoroethylcarbamoyl)-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-isonicotinamide;

N-[2-{4-[2-(2,4-Dichlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-isonicotinamide;

Pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid [2-{4-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-propyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;

2-{4-[2-Aminosulfonyl amino-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-N-methyl-3-naphthalen-2-yl-propionamide;

Pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid (1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-{4-[2-(2-fluorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-2-oxo-ethyl)-amide;

Pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid (1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-{4-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-2-oxo-ethyl)-amide;

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Pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid (1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-{4-[2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-2-oxo-ethyl)-amide;
N-[2-{4-[2-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-isonicotinamide;
Pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;
4-Amino-cyclohexanecarboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;
Pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;
Pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-1-isopropylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;
Pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(3-chlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;
Pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;
Pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(2-chlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;
Pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;
Pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-(2-fluoroethylcarbamoyl)-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide; and
Pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid (1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-{4-[2-(2-fluorophenyl)-1-methyl-carbamoyl-ethyl]-2-methyl-piperazin-1-yl}-2-oxo-ethyl)-amide.

48. (New) A compound according to Claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:
1-Amino-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-ethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;

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- 1-Amino-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid {2-{4-{2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-1-methyl-carbamoyl-ethyl}-2-methyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;
- 1-Amino-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid {2-{4-{2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl}-2-methyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;
- 1-Amino-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-(2-fluoroethylcarbamoyl)-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;
- 1-Methylamino-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-(2-fluoroethylcarbamoyl)-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;
- 1-Amino-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;
- 1-Methylamino-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;
- 1-Amino-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;
- 1-Methylamino-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;
- 1-Amino-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-{4-[2-(2-fluorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-methyl-piperazin-1-yl}-2-oxo-ethyl)-amide;
- 1-Amino-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide; and

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1-Methylamino-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide.

49. (New) A compound according to Claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:
- 2-{3-Ethyl-4-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(2-methoxy-acetylamino)-propionyl]-piperazin-1-yl}-N-methyl-3-naphthalen-2-yl-propionamide;
 - [2-[2-Ethyl-4-(1-methylcarbamoyl-2-naphthalen-2-yl-ethyl)-piperazin-1-yl]-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-carbamic acid methyl ester;
 - 3-(3,4-Dichlorophenyl)-2-{4-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(2-methyl-2-methylamino-propionyl amino)-propionyl]-3-methyl-piperazin-1-yl}-N-methyl-propionamide;
 - 3-(3,4-Dichlorophenyl)-2-{4-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(2-methylamino-propionylamino)-propionyl]-3-methyl-piperazin-1-yl}-N-methyl-propionamide;
 - 3-(3,4-Dichlorophenyl)-2-{4-[2-(2-dimethylamino-acetylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-methyl-piperazin-1-yl}-N-methyl-propionamide;
 - 2-{4-[3-(4-Fluorophenyl)-2-methylamino-propionyl]-2-oxo-3-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-3-naphthalen-2-yl-N-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)-propionamide;
 - [2-{4-[2-(3,4-Dichlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-carbamic acid methyl ester;
 - [2-{4-[2-(2-Chlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-carbamic acid methyl ester;
 - [2-{4-[2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-carbamic acid methyl ester;
 - [2-{4-[2-(3-Chlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-carbamic acid methyl ester;
 - 3-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2-{4-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(2-hydroxy-2-methyl-propionylamino)-propionyl]-3-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-N-methyl-propionamide;

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3-(3-Chlorophenyl)-2-{4-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(2-hydroxy-2-methyl-propionylamino)-propionyl]-3-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-N-methyl-propionamide;
3-(2,4-Dichlorophenyl)-2-{4-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(2-hydroxy-2-methyl-propionyl-amino)-propionyl]-3-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-N-methyl-propionamide;
{1-(4-Fluorobenzyl)-2-[4-(1-methylcarbamoyl-2-naphthalen-2-yl-ethyl)-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl]-2-oxo-ethyl}-carbamic acid methyl ester;
2-{4-[3-(4-Fluorophenyl)-2-(2-hydroxy-2-methyl-propionylamino)-propionyl]-3-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-N-methyl-3-naphthalen-2-yl-propionamide;
2-{4-[3-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2-methylamino-propionyl]-3-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-N-methyl-3-naphthalen-2-yl-propionamide;
2-{4-[3-(4-Fluorophenyl)-2-(2-methylamino-acetylamino)-propionyl]-3-methyl-piperazin-1-yl}-N-methyl-3-naphthalen-2-yl-propionamide; and
[2-{4-[2-(2,4-Dichlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-propyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-carbamic acid methyl ester.

50. (New) A compound according to Claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:
- 2-{4-[2-Amino-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-methoxymethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-3-(2-chlorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;
2-{4-[2-Amino-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-methoxymethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-3-(3-chlorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;
2-{4-[2-Amino-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-methoxymethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;
2-{4-[2-Amino-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-methoxymethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-3-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;
2-{4-[2-Amino-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-methoxymethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-3-N-methyl-3-naphthalen-2-yl-propionamide;
2-{4-[2-Amino-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-methoxymethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-3-(2-chlorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;

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2-{4-[2-Amino-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-methoxymethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-
3-(3-chlorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;
2-{4-[2-Amino-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-methoxymethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-
3-(4-chlorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;
2-{4-[2-Amino-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-methoxymethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-
3-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;
2-{4-[2-Amino-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-methoxymethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-
3-N-methyl-3-naphthalen-2-yl-propionamide;
2-{4-[2-Amino-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-methoxymethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-
3-(2-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;
2-{4-[2-Amino-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-methoxymethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-
3-(3-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;
2-{4-[2-Amino-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-methoxymethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-
3-(2-fluorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;
2-{4-[2-Amino-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-methoxymethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-
3-(2,4-difluorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide; and
2-{4-[2-Amino-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-methoxymethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-
3-N-methyl-3-naphthalen-2-yl-propionamide.

51. (New) A compound according to Claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:
- Pyrrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid {1-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-2-[2-methoxymethyl-4-(1-methyl carbamoyl-2-naphthalen-2-yl-ethyl)-piperazin-1-yl]-2-oxo-ethyl}-amide;
- 1-Amino-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-methoxymethyl-piperazine-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;
- Pyrrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid[2-{4-[2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-methoxymethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]amide;

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2-{4-[2-(2-Amino-2-methyl-propionylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-methoxy-methylpiperazin-1-yl}-N-methyl-3-naphthalen-2-yl-propionamide;
{1-(4-Fluorobenzyl)-2-[2-methoxymethyl-4-(1-methylcarbamoyl-2-naphthalen-2-yl-ethyl)-piperazin-1-yl]-2-oxo-ethyl}-carbamic acid methyl ester;
2-{4-[3-(4-Fluorophenyl)-2-(2-hydroxy-2-methyl-propionylamino)-propionyl]-3-methoxy methyl-piperazin-1-yl}-N-methyl-3-naphthalen-2-yl-propionamide;
{1-(4-Fluoro-benzyl)-2-[2-methoxymethyl-4-(1-methylcarbamoyl-2-naphthalen-2-yl-ethyl)-piperazin-1-yl]-2-oxo-ethyl}-carbamic acid ethyl ester;
2-{4-[2-(2-Amino-2-methyl-propionylamino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionyl]-3-methoxymethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-N-methyl-propionamide;
Pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-methoxymethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;
1-Amino-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-methoxymethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;
1-Methylamino-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid [2-{4-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylcarbamoyl-ethyl]-2-methoxymethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-1-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-2-oxo-ethyl]-amide;
3-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2-{4-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-methylamino-propionyl]-3-methoxymethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-N-methyl-propionamide;
3-(4-Chlorophenyl)-N-(2-fluoro-ethyl)-2-{4-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-methylamino-propionyl]-3-methoxymethyl-piperazin-1-yl}-propionamide; and
3-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2-{4-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-methylamino-propionyl]-3-methoxy-methyl-piperazin-1-yl}-N-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)-propionamide.

52. (New) A composition comprising:
- A) an effective amount of one or more compounds according to Claim 39; and
 - B) one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

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53. (New) A method for controlling obesity in humans and higher mammals, said method comprising administering to a human or higher mammal a composition comprising one or more compounds according to Claim 39.
54. (New) A method for controlling appetite in humans and higher mammals, said method comprising administering to a human or higher mammal a composition comprising one or more compounds according to Claim 39.
55. (New) A method for controlling one or more MC-4 mediated disorders in a human, said disorders selected from the group consisting of insulin resistance, glucose intolerance, Type-2 diabetes mellitus, coronary artery disease, elevated blood pressure, hypertension, dyslipidaemia, endometrial cancer, cervical cancer, ovarian cancer, breast cancer, prostate cancer, gallbladder cancer, colon cancer, menstrual irregularities, hirsutism, infertility, gallbladder disease, restrictive lung disease, sleep apnea, gout, osteoarthritis, and thromboembolic disease, said method comprising administering to a human a composition comprising one or more compounds according to Claim 39.
56. (New) A method for controlling one or more MC-4 mediated disorders in a human, said disorders selected from the group consisting of behavior conditions, memory and learning deficiencies, cardiovascular function, inflammation, sepsis, cardiogenic and hypovolemic shock, sexual dysfunction, penile erection, muscle atrophy, nerve growth and repair, intrauterine fetal growth, said method comprising administering to a human a composition comprising one or more compounds according to Claim 39.
57. (New) A method for controlling one or more disorders in a human, said disorders selected from the group consisting of behavior conditions, memory and learning deficiencies, cardiovascular function, inflammation, sepsis, cardiogenic and hypovolemic shock, sexual dysfunction, penile erection, muscle atrophy, nerve growth and repair, intrauterine fetal growth, said method comprising

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administering to a human an effective amount of a MC-3 and/or MC-4 receptor ligand, said ligand serving as a receptor antagonist, said ligand is a compound according to Claim 39.

58. (New) A method for controlling one or more disorders in a human, said disorders selected from the group consisting of insulin resistance, glucose intolerance, Type-2 diabetes mellitus, coronary artery disease, elevated blood pressure, hypertension, dyslipidaemia, endometrial cancer, cervical cancer, ovarian cancer, breast cancer, prostate cancer, gallbladder cancer, colon cancer, menstrual irregularities, hirsutism, infertility, gallbladder disease, restrictive lung disease, sleep apnea, gout, osteoarthritis, and thromboembolic disease, said method comprising administering to a human an effective amount of a MC-3 and/or MC-4 receptor ligand, said ligand serving as a receptor antagonist, said ligand is a compound according to Claim 39.